



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FORMER SANTA CRUZ COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF IS SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS ON DRUG CHARGES

TUCSON, ARIZONA -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on October 12, 2003, District Court Judge Jorgenson sentenced Jesus Durazo (DOB: 2/14/53) to five years for attempting to possess with intent to distribute three hundred and ten (310) pounds of marijuana. The defendant, a resident of Nogales, Arizona, had been a Deputy Sheriff with the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office until 1992.

Durazo entered his guilty plea on the third day of his jury trial. He admitted that on January 17, 2001, he was at a storage locker in Nogales, Arizona and had placed bales of marijuana in his vehicle that he had agreed to transport for a person he believed was a narcotics trafficker to Los Angeles, California for \$30,000.00

The investigation that led to the indictment was conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Nogales Arizona Police Department, the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office and the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

(MORE)

The prosecution is being handled by James T. Lacey, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-01-674-TUC-CKJ

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